

State Board Retreat/Work Session – April 18, 2013

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held a retreat work session on Thursday, April 18, 2013. The work session began at 12:01 p.m. with the following Board members present: Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; G. Patrick Heffernan, Randall L. Hughes, II, and Barbara B. Rutt. Donna R. Johnson, State Board Executive Director, was also present.

Also joining the State Board was Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board of Education as well as Francis Eberle from the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE).

After opening the Retreat, Dr. Gray announced that the State Board would recess to attend the Harvard Strategic Data Partnership Presentation. The Board recessed from 12:01 to 2 p.m.

Next Generation of Science Standards

Mr. Eberle who is the NASBE project director for the Next Generation of Science Standards(NGSS) highlighted standards for the State Board. Department staff Dr. Shelley Rouser, April McCrae, John Moyer, and Tonyea Mead also provided information to the State Board.

The Board recessed for five minutes.

Data Analysis Discussion with Harvard SDP Team

The Board was joined by Atnre Alleyne, Harvard Fellow at the Department and the following Harvard Strategic Data Project team members: Lindsay Page, Meg Nipson and Olivia Chi. The team provided a more in depth look at the data that was presented at the earlier presentation with education stakeholders. Donna Mitchell from the TLEU office was also present for the presentation.

TLEU

Christopher Ruszkowski, TLEU Chief Officer, provided a brief update on TLEU initiatives and DPAS which he discussed with the Board at its Winter Retreat. He explained that the publication of Regulation 106 has been delayed and he would keep the Board up to date.

The work session adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

State Board Retreat/Work Session – April 19, 2013

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held a retreat work session on Friday, April 19, 2013 in the duPont Conference Room at Buena Vista Conference Center, New Castle, Delaware. The work session began at 9:00 a.m. with the following Board members present: Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; G. Patrick Heffernan, Randall L. Hughes, II, and Barbara B. Rutt. Donna R. Johnson, State Board Executive Director, was also present.

Also joining the State Board was Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board of Education, David Blowman, Deputy Secretary of Education and Melissa Hopkins from Rodel.

Certification and Licensure for Teachers

Department staff Angeline Willen and Maria Degnats provided a presentation on the State's licensure and certification system. Delaware is unique in that you need a license to teach in addition to also being required to meet specific certification requirements.

Overview of Educator Prep Programs and Assessments

Ms. Johnson and Mary Kate McLaughlin, the Department's Chief of Staff, lead the Board in a discussion of the educator prep programs and teacher licensure and certification assessments currently being used nationwide. Ms. Johnson highlighted the several recent research studies and policy recommendations from those reports as well. She also discussed the current status of educator preparation in Delaware as compared to those studies and stated the common recommendations among all the studies that could strengthen Delaware's programs.

Governor's Education Agenda

Rebecca Taber, Governor's Education Policy Advisor, joined the Board and highlighted the Governor's Education Agenda and current education legislation.

Presentation on Recommendations from Charter School Working Group

The Board reviewed the recommendations of the charter school working group and the draft components of potential charter legislation.

Gifted and Talented Task Force

Barbara Rutt highlighted the recommendations of the Gifted and Talented Task Force as well as the legislation that has been introduced that allows funding through competitive grants for districts to pilot programs for gifted and talented students.

Discussion of Research Agenda

The Board had a discussion on areas of research that would be the most beneficial and what types of outcomes the Boards wishes to obtain from any research.

The work session adjourned at 4:34 p.m.